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Executive Registry

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12 July 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence (Designate)

VIA : Deputy Director for Intelligence *Corp*

FROM : Director of Current Intelligence

SUBJECT : Changes in the Central Intelligence Bulletin

1. This memorandum requests approval in paragraph 10 for initial moves to revitalize the Central Intelligence Bulletin and make it more fully representative of the Intelligence Community.

2. Background. The Central Intelligence Bulletin was established by the IAC (predecessor of USIB in 1958) as the Intelligence Community's authoritative current intelligence daily publication. It was to be coordinated by the various organizations to the extent time permitted, and was then to be as "national" as a current intelligence periodical can be. With its establishment, the individual military service dailies of the time ceased publication.

3. In 1961 DIA was established and began publication of the Defense Intelligence Summary. In 1964 USIB again reviewed current intelligence publications. It reaffirmed that the CIB was the current daily for national consumers and specified that DIA's daily was departmental. A year or so later, NSA began publication of its "SIGINT Summary", a one-source current daily. In 1972 Ray Cline, in an effort to improve INR's status in State, scraped together a current intelligence staff and reportedly began publication of some sort of daily, which we have not seen.

4. In 1967, on CIA's initiative but with USIB's approval, CIA split the CIB into three editions, the "Black

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Book" for about 40 top-level readers, the intermediate "Red Book" for 150-200 supporting officers, and the secret-level "White Book" for a more general readership. Since that time the White Book has gradually been emasculated by increasing security restrictions and controls; we are discontinuing it this week.

5. Over the last few years CIA has, partly on request of the NSC Staff and partly on its own initiative, begun publication of a number of specialized regional periodicals, some daily, some at longer intervals, directed to the intermediate level. The philosophy underlying these has been that the Black and Red books provide adequate information for the policy-maker who is not himself directly involved in a specific issue, but not enough on any one issue for the officer responsible for it.

6. The Problem. There are actually two:

a. The present structure of current periodicals, including the Precis and PDB, is jerry-built and needs rationalization. The issues here are complex, however, and need further thought.

b. The "national" nature of the CIB has gradually been less respected by the USIB agencies and is not apparent to our senior readership, who view the CIA, DIA and even NSA dailies as parallel, overlapping, and sometimes contradictory departmental issuances.

7. This second problem is independent of the first, and some relatively simple initial steps can be taken toward its solution. We propose that you rename the Central Intelligence Bulletin the National Intelligence Bulletin and request greater participation in its production by the USIB Agencies. Your accession as DCI would be a suitable and symbolic occasion for this action. Once it is accomplished, a move to eliminate the departmental dailies could follow and might be more acceptable.

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8. We had originally suggested that an NIB be part of the NIOC package. It does not have to be, and there are advantages in a piecemeal, step-by-step approach toward the structure we seek. Moreover, we think you can take this first step by fiat, on your present authority as DCI, without endless Community negotiations. Finally, such a move would make clear your intention to pull the Community together and provide a national intelligence product.

9. The price of an NIB would be greater trouble in the Bulletin's production and, possibly, some loss in CIA control of its content. The first is worrisome but acceptable. The second is essential to the concept in principle; in practice, our greater resources and expertise would insure the general primacy of our views. There may also be some pressure for greater timeliness than our present standards now require for the CIB. We can see no immediate money costs beyond some possible increase in overtime. In the longer run joining the agencies through a net of text-editing equipment such as that now under development may be desirable.

10. Recommendations. We recommend that, at the first meeting of USIB after your swearing-in, you state your intent to make the CIB truly national, and request that the USIB agencies take greater responsibility for its content. Specifically, you should:

a. Announce that the CIB will immediately become the National Intelligence Bulletin.

b. Invite the member agencies regularly to make suggestions on items to be treated, or to submit drafts themselves.

c. Invite them to make freer use of dissents.

d. Request that INR, DIA, NSA and perhaps Treasury each appoint a senior representative to work out with us any changes in procedure that may be necessary, and to ensure that their agencies participate seriously in this venture.

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11. If you approve, we will prepare the necessary talking paper for USIB. The actual renaming can be done overnight. A proposed cover is attached.

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Richard Lennan
Director of Current Intelligence

Attachment: a/s

APPROVED:

Date

DISAPPROVED:

Date

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National Intelligence Bulletin

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